THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

Per Year (52 issues)..... $2 00
In Clubs of Twenty..... 1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can a paper be furnished gratis.

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☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to the COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

Our Tax Burden.

County Expenses $293,412 71 in 1864--$644,896 44 in 1868.

Why This Enormous Increase!

INCREASE IN VALUATION 42 PER CENT. BUT NO DECREASE IN MILLAGE.

Where The Money Goes.

The Way The Rings Live Off the People.

Some of the Beauties of Special Legislation.

STARTLING FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

While the Tax Payers of Allegheny county are paying their taxes and deciding on their political action at the ensuing election, they are invited to consider well the following facts:

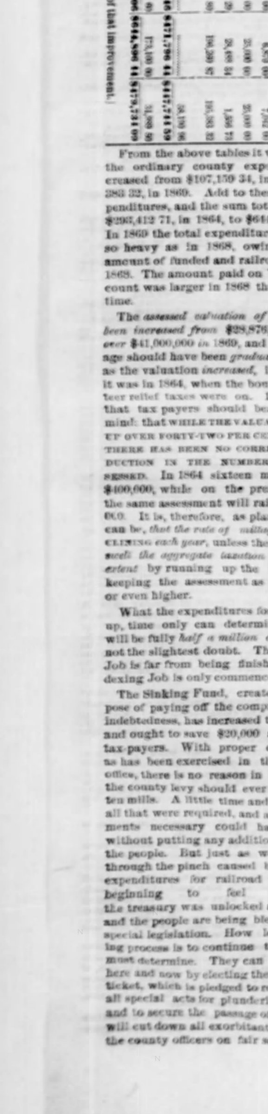
Previous to 1865, the affairs of Allegheny county had been placed in good shape, and everything was working smoothly and economically. The finances of the county, under careful management, had been brought into some system, and redeemed from the almost inextricable confusion in which the railroad bond litigation left them. The taxpayers began to see the end, and hoped that in a very short time taxation would be reduced almost one half. But while the people were waiting for the "good time coming," the eyes of the Jobbers were turned upon the treasury. The financial affairs were becoming too "easy," and the Ring Managers saw that their time to strike had come. But the reckless system of financial management which existed at the time the railroad indebtedness was contracted, had been changed, and the treasury was more closely guarded than before. It could not be so readily reached through Grand Juries, County Commissioners and Auditors. But the Ring was equal to the occasion, and the treasury was attacked through *special legislation*—that most baneful and pernicious system, which is fast dragging us to bankruptcy and ruin. In 1865, these extraordinary special expenditures began, and have been swelling enormously ever since.

Below we give tables compiled from the annual reports of the County Controller, HENRY LAMBERT, Esq., which we wish every taxpayer in the county to examine. They are for a period of six years, and show the rapid increase of taxation during that period, which increase is the result mainly of the *corrupt and pernicious practice of special legislation, inaugurated under the management of cliques and Rings for the benefit of office holders and private speculators:*

ORDINARY COUNTY EXPENDITURES.

		Increase.
1864	$107,159 34	
1865	129,042 08	21,882 74
1866	152,115 00	22,972 92
1867	172,695 80	17,780 16
1868	196,260 07	23,364 27
1869	293,412 71	97,152 64

The total increase in the ordinary expenses since 1864 is $88,223 98.



From the above tables it will be seen the the ordinary county expenses have increased from $107,159 34, in 1864, to $196,260 32, in 1869. Add to these the other expenditures, and the sum total runs up from $293,412 71, in 1864, to $644,896 44 in 1868. In 1869 the total expenditures are not quite so heavy as in 1868, owing to the large amount of funded and railroad debt paid in 1868. The amount paid on Work-house account was larger in 1868 than at any other time.

The assessed valuation of the county has been increased from $28,876,000, in 1864, to over $41,000,000 in 1869, and while the millage should have been *gradually diminishing* as the valuation *increased*, it is as high as it was in 1864, when the bounty and volunteer relief taxes were on. It is important that tax payers should bear this fact in mind: that WHILE THE VALUATION HAS GONE UP OVER FORTY-TWO PER CENT. SINCE 1864, THERE HAS BEEN NO CORRESPONDING REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF MILLS ASSESSED. In 1864 sixteen mills raised but $400,000, while on the present valuation the same assessment will raise about $600,000. It is, therefore, as plain as anything can be, *that the rate of millage should be DECLINING each year*, unless the intention is to *swell the aggregate taxation to an unlimited extent* by running up the valuation and keeping the assessment as high as before, or even higher.

What the expenditures for 1870 will foot up, time only can determine. That they will be fully *half a million dollars* we have not the slightest doubt. The Court House Job is far from being finished, and the Indexing Job is only commenced.

The Sinking Fund, created for the purpose of paying off the compromise railroad indebtedness, has increased to over $450,000 and ought to save $20,000 annually to the tax-payers. With proper economy, such has been exercised in the Controller's office, there is no reason in the world why the county levy should ever have exceeded ten mills. A little time and patience were all that were required, and all the improvements necessary could have been made without putting any additional burdens on the people. But just as we were getting through the pinch caused by the reckless expenditures for railroad purposes, and beginning to feel easy again, the treasury was unlocked at Harrisburg, and the people are being bled to death by special legislation. How long this bleeding process is to continue they themselves must determine. They can stop it right here and now by electing the entire Reform ticket, which is pledged to resist and defeat all special acts for plundering the people, and to secure the passage of a law which will cut down all exorbitant fees and place the county officers on fair salaries. When that is done *eight*, instead of *sixteen* mills, will be ample for all purposes.

Not only are the Reform Republicans of this county opposed to every kind of special legislation, by which the burdens of the tax payers are being increased to an almost unbearable amount, but they are also in favor of the passage of an act by which all fees (for the benefit of office holders) will be abolished, and the officers placed upon reasonable salaries—salaries such as will command the services of good and responsible men, and at the same time bear some just proportion to the kind of services rendered. They are determined to do away with the absurdity of paying the Judges *of our Courts* $5,000 a year, and giving their clerks $20,000.

Let us now turn our attention for a short time to some of these offices and special jobs, with a view to showing the tax payers how their assessments have been increased, and what use has been, and is being made of the *extraordinary* sums levied upon them during the past six years:

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

This office is one of the most profitable in the county, and a peculiarity connected with it is that no one but the incumbent can tell what it is worth. It is sufficiently profitable, in a term of three years, to justify enormous outlays to secure a nomination—set up delegates, buy votes in convention, etc. Wealthy men stoop to serve the people in the capacity of Sheriff, and spend "a cool ten thousand" to secure the nomination. It is a "fee" office, but a very considerable portion of the fees come directly out of the pockets of the taxpayers. A change was made in the law some years ago, which cut off the jail fees, which up to that time had been a large source of revenue. The reform herein effected, however, did not inure to the permanent benefit of the people. Special legislation was again invoked, and what was lost in one way was more than made up in another. At that time the Sheriff was allowed but twenty-five cents each for summoning jurors—a sum quite ample for the service rendered, when it is recollected that some four thousand jurors are drawn annually. But this did not satisfy the (then) incumbent, who, being in the Legislative as well as in the County Committee and Court House Rings, went down to Harrisburg and had a bill engineered raising the compensation of the Sheriff for summoning jurors *to one dollar each*. The proposition was a monstrous *for* even the Legislature of Ring days, but the people would denounce the act as a scheme to put $3,000 extra per year into the pockets of the Sheriff, who was already largely overpaid. The act was then changed, and a provision incorporated so as to raise the compensation of jurors from one dollar per day to two dollars and fifty cents per day. Believing this would prove popular—although no one had asked for it—the bill was passed in this shape, and the Ring carried its point. This master-stroke of special legislation still continues in force, and Sheriff FLEMING, for his services in drawing jurors for the last June term, drew over $800 from the county treasury. Under this same law, for which there was not a particle of justice, Sheriff FLEMING will realize over $10,000 during his term. Thus it will be seen that, by the influence of one man, aided and abetted by his Ring coadjutors, each man who fills the Sheriff's office is enabled to transfer, with scarcely an effort, $10,000 from the pockets of the tax payers and place them in his own. And this is only one item of plunder which ought to be cut off altogether from that officer.

THE INDEXING JOB.

This precious bit of special legislation has been pretty thoroughly exposed already, but the record would be incomplete without a reference to it. It was gotten up some three sessions ago, but the first act gave the Judges of the Courts supervisory power, and although the bill of ED. WILLIAMS was precisely the same then as now, the Judges refused to sanction the contract, believing that to do so would have been an outrage upon the taxpayers. But the leeches had smelt the blood, if they did not taste it, and were not to be choked off readily. Another bill was prepared, and so quietly manipulated by the Ring that it became a law just in the proper shape to secure a consummation of the outrage which had previously been thwarted by the Judges. A majority of the old Commissioners was named in the bill, *with the supervisory power of the Judges withheld*, and in due time ED. WILLIAMS was awarded the contract, at the original bid per page, in face of the fact that equally good bidders offered to do the work at *less than half* the amount which WILLIAMS is to be paid. We have the best reason for believing that this job will cost the tax payers $30,000 at least. ED WILLIAMS says it will not exceed $15,000 for the deeds (and to this the mortgages are to be added), but even at his own figures the county will be the loser to the extent of $7,500. The Commissioners resolved, from the beginning, to give this job to the redoubtable "EBENEZER," who seems to have been specially "raised" for this purpose. One of them gave it as his deliberate opinion that "he was the only man in the county who could do their work," which called forth the pithy reply that "it would be a great misfortune if EB. should either die or get drunk." What *would* become of the indexes if either of these grave contingencies should happen?

Like other acts of special legislation there is no supervisory power here. The County Controller, who ought to have some knowledge of expenditures incurred on behalf of the county, knows nothing about it whatever. There is no appropriation made for the work, and the Controller will have to call upon the Commissioners, before the next appropriation is made, for an estimate as to the probable cost. The tax-payers, unless we are greatly mistaken, will have the pleasure of paying an additional mill next year for this very purpose. They may get off with half a mill; but if so, it will only defer the other half mill until the following year.

THE COURT HOUSE IMPROVEMENT.

The large sums already expended, and yet to be spent, in the improvement of the Court House and Jail, have their warrant in special legislation, and the worst feature of the act is, that it places no limit to the amount which may be expended. The Prison Board have, as it were, blank checks upon the County Treasury, which they can fill up to any amount. The first estimate for this work was $77,000. This was soon found to be insufficient, and a second estimate run the figure up to $90,000. On the first of January, 1870, $20,000 more were added, making $110,000 in all, which was to cover the whole improvement. This sum, with $9,000 additional, has already been spent, and still there is much to be done. How much more will be required, no one seems able now to tell; but certain it is that three Court Rooms are yet to be overhauled, refitted and furnished, and much other work remains to be done. The contractors have been notified to stop, as there is no more money in the treasury out of which to pay these expenditures, and they must await an appropriation next year. As we have said, $110,000 has already been expended, and to meet this the act authorized a levy of one and a half mills in 1869 and half a mill in 1870. One mill raises about $38,000 net, so that the amount legally collected for this work is only $76,000. The additional $45,000 already spent had to be drawn from other sources. If the Legislature had fixed the limit of these improvements at two mills, there would have been some check placed on the Board, but they can now go on and spend the people's money until they are satisfied, and are made accountable to no one.

THE CLERK OF THE COURTS.

This is another of the "big paying offices," and, like the Sheriff, the Clerk of the Courts draws largely upon the general public. One of his fat items is a fee of five dollars for every license granted, with a handsome fee for those which are refused. This alone yields that officer about $8,000 per annum—a higher compensation in itself than the whole service is worth. This entire license business does not occupy more than twenty days, all told, of the Clerk's time, and yet he receives a princely income from it. He realizes, from this source alone, more than the State allows a Judge of the Supreme Court! From December 1st, 1869, to July 1st, 1870—a period of seven months—Clerk BROWNE drew, for eleven hundred and eighty licenses granted, $5,900. There are "other sources" of revenue from this whisky business, which tavern keepers are familiar with, and which we need not do more than merely allude to. It is an enormous oppression, concocted to enrich the few at the expense of the many, and ought to be wiped out at once and forever.

THE PROTHONOTARY'S OFFICE.

This office is said to be "the best in the county." The rapid increase in our population and the vast amount of litigation in *our* courts render it a mine of wealth to the incumbent. It is better than an oil well, because the flow always increases. It never diminishes, and there are no fluctuations to reduce the profits. We do not charge that the legal fee bills are exceeded, but we appeal to the legal fraternity to say whether the Prothonotary does not always take *every cent the law allows him*. Our objection is to the law itself. The people should not tolerate it for a single moment. The duties are purely clerical, and the most clerical talent can be employed for one-fourth of what this office now costs the people. Why continue to pay $20,000 per annum for work that can be performed for $5,000?—yes, for even $3,000, and command better talent than it is likely to command, as a general rule, under the present arrangement. If the fees are to be exacted from litigants, let them go into the treasury, and let the clerk have a fair salary.

THE CORONER'S OFFICE.

The fees of this office have been more than doubled by special legislation, and it now costs the county over $1,600 per year. This increase was effected by the present incumbent, through the influence of the Ring, and how he dignified the office by his increased fees, is known throughout the county.

JURY COMMISSIONERS.

This office has also been created within the past three years, and for the sole purpose of drawing money out of the treasury. There was no such article of *Gazette*, known to the statutes, while would never do to go before the public with a proposition to create it. Accordingly, it was tacked on to the Crawford county bill, and so quietly manipulated by the Ring that it passed without attracting much attention. Smith's celebrated brass band furnished the music for the occasion, which was vociferous in the extreme.

SPECIAL DETECTIVE FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

Among the latest acts for filching money from the public treasury, was that creating the office of special detective for the District Attorney. There is no more use for this officer than there is for a fifth wheel to a coach, as any constable can be called upon if needed, and there are always plenty of constables in the city to execute the processes of the Court. It places a nice little sinecure at the disposal of the District Attorney, and enables the incumbent to draw $800 per year from the treasury. How many farmers who help to pay this tax, work hard from sunrise to sunset the year round, and cannot earn $800. But here is a snug place, with no manual labor to perform, and only exercise enough during Court term to keep the incumbent from rusting, which enables him to live like a gentleman, and gives him opportunity, should he feel so disposed, to levy unlimited sums in the form of "black mail." If there is any use for him at all, it can only be in the capacity of a spy and informer for the District Attorney, of whom he is the mere creature, and to whom alone he is responsible. In the hands of most "detectives" the office could not fail to become a means of corruption and oppression. It is dangerous as well as useless, and ought to be abolished.

We might continue this exhibit much farther, and refer specially to the great increase in the cost of the administration of justice in the county, resulting from the loose and corrupt administration of the license law, whereby lawlessness, poverty, and every species of crime, have frightfully increased, and hundreds of households been desolated. But the facts we have presented are enough to convince all that there must be reform, and that in the consideration of interest, morality and justice is in favor of the election of the Reform ticket.

LOOK TO THE TAXES.

The *Gazette* labors to disprove our figures in regard to the increased taxation in the county. Giving the millage each year, from 1864 to 1870, it adds:

"This table shows to our readers that the County tax up to the year 1870 was not increased at all."

Now, the *Gazette* would have its readers believe that because the assessment for county purposes has been uniformly fixed at ten mills each year, from 1864 to 1869, *"the county tax up to the year 1870 was not increased at all."* How will it account for the fact that the *ordinary county expenses alone*, from 1864 to 1869, *increased* $89,101 53? The expenditures within these years, as taken from Mr Controller LAMBERT'S annual reports, are as follows:

	Expenditures.	Increase.
1864	$107,159 34	
1865	129,042 08	$21,882 74
1866	152,115 00	22,972 92
1867	172,695 80	17,780 16
1868	196,260 07	23,365 27
Total increase.....		$89,101 53

It is true, in all these years the millage assessed for county purposes was the same, but *the increased expenditure was made nevertheless*. Will the *Gazette* have the candor and honesty to inform its readers that *while the millage remained the same, the valuation had been increased from $28,000,000 to $40,000,000?* Every tax payer, who has intelligence enough to read the *Gazette*, knows that there has been increased taxation, and knows that the assertion of the *Gazette* that "there has been no increase at all," is false. They will understand, too, that the purpose of the *Gazette*, in thus attempting to deceive them, is to quiet their fears; to keep down complaint; and to *continue in office men who will continue to run the taxes up.*

The *Gazette* undertakes to strengthen its falsehood by stating that "the finances of the county are under the control of Mr. LAMBERT, a man without fear and without reproach;" that "every bill against the county passes through his hands; every contract and bargain is made under his supervision; and his veto on any improper expenditure is fatal to it." While it is true that Mr. LAMBERT is a faithful guardian of the public moneys, so far as he has power to guard them, it is not true that every contract and bargain is made under his supervision." If a sheriff or a coroner goes down to Harrisburg and gets his fees doubled and trebled, by special legislation, *as has been done*, what power has Mr. LAMBERT to stop ther payment? If an Indexing Job is put through the Legislature, *as has been done*, what "supervision" has he of "the bargain or contract?" How can he *veto* any expenditure of this character, no matter how monstrous it may be? He is utterly powerless to protect the people. He can do nothing but pass the warrants over to the treasury, to be paid.

When the office of Controller was created, it was the intention of the Legislature, and the desire of the people, that he should have the entire supervision of the finances of the county; and if he had been permitted to manage them, without interference, we would not to-day be groaning under such heavy loads of taxation. But he was not permitted to manage them. *Special and extraordinary expenditures require special and extraordinary legislation.* The jobbers could not trust Mr. LAMBERT to make contracts for the indexing of the county records. O, no! He acts under oath, gives bonds for the faithful performance of his duties, and can be held responsible. He is not the kind of man to "set up a job." He would not answer at all. Therefore he must be legislated "out of the ring."

But while the ordinary county expenses have been swelled to the extent and in the manner indicated, the increase in the general expenditures has been much greater. In 1864, the total disbursements for all purposes was $293,412 71, against $644,896 44 in 1868, an aggregate increase of $351,483 73. This startling result, as we have already shown, comes from *special legislation*, AND WILL CONTINUE JUST SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE TAMELY SUBMIT TO IT. If the voters of Allegheny county shut their eyes to the facts which we have spread before them; if they blindly assent to the declarations of the *Gazette*, that there has really been no increase in their ordinary expenditures—and only such an increase for extra purposes as is proper and necessary; that there is no jobbing; no exorbitant fees paid to office holders; not a single dollar spent uselessly or extravagantly, they may make up their minds that their burdens will be increased until they stagger and fall under the load.

Thousands of taxpayers are now up in arms against the abuses of special legislation, and are determined to prevent it in future. There are willing to pay all that is reasonable and necessary, in order to carry on the expenses of the county, but not one cent for jobbers—not one cent for overpaid office holders—not one cent for lobbyists—not one cent for "pinchers" and "roosters." They are determined to inaugurate a thorough system of RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM, and as the first and most essential step towards this desirable end, THEY ARE GOING TO ELECT THE ENTIRE REFORM TICKET.

THE CAMPAIGN.

REFORM REPUBLICAN MEETINGS.

AT ALLEGHENY.

THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 22D.

In accordance with the published announcement, a large mass meeting of Reform Republicans was held Thursday evening, in the Third ward square, Diamond, Allegheny. As stated above, the attendance was quite large, and the interest and enthusiasm was manifested throughout. Able addresses were made by David E. Kirk, Esq., Rev. F. A. Hutchinson, Hon. Joseph Walton and Mr. Thomas Penny, of Mc-Candless township. The speaking which will be found below, and they were listened to with marked attention. Smith's celebrated brass band furnished the music for the occasion, which was vociferous in the extreme.

THE ORGANIZATION.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. JAS. Miller, upon whose motion the following officers were published:

President—Wm. Carson.

Vice Presidents—Hon. Simon Drum, G. D. McGrew, S. H. Paine, John A. Watts, John Kirkpatrick, Jas. Miller, Wm. Hamilton, Wm. Richey, Hugh McKelvey, and Henry Pratt, Esqs.

Secretaries—Messrs. Wm. H. Wakeham, H. S. Mellor and W. G. Warden.

On taking the chair Mr. Carson thanked the meeting for the honor conferred, and introduced David E. Kirk, Esq., who spoke in substance as follows:

ADDRESS OF MR. KIRK.

He was glad to see so many upturned faces, persons in whom he recognized old friends, before him. He had come to speak to the citizens and present on this occasion, and he meant no disrespect to those present when he made this assertion. The crowd he expected to see present were the Mackeys, the Erretts and the Carsons, but he was disappointed in the reason of this was because they had a "side show" across on the other square. He was glad of this, for the reason that he had come not to say a word in favor of any man or measure. He then referred to the Reform Movement, and stated that a ticket had been organized, and claimed that had it been brought before the people properly, it would have received the hearty support of the masses of the Republicans of Allegheny county. And we now inform you that the ticket was Mackey, Next in order was Tommy Steel, who was a "Democrat" in 1861. He met on a morning paper had said "so long a time that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." He referred to the prominent men in the ward, had been repudiated; then received offices in the Ring, and after they (the Ring) had been kicked out; next he appeared upon the county and offered himself as a candidate for Council, and was defeated by Democrats overboard; and now at last he had got into the National Ring, and was standing in favor of Uncle Sam. Such, said the speaker, is the character of the Ring Managers.

The speaker referred to the candidates nominated by the Reform Convention and contrasted them with the candidates of the Regular Convention. He first mentioned the name of Col. Fred. Jordan, candidate for Congress in the Twenty-third District, a man of irreproachable character, integrity and honesty, a man who was loved by his fellow people, and besides him was Mr. McJunkin, a man in every way worthy to be the nominee for Congress in the Twenty-second District. the Reformers nominated Major Wm. Frew, a man standing equally high in social circles. Then for Senate came the name of Alex. Gordon. What could be said of him? Why, in the dark, dark days of the rebellion he had been with Andy Curtin, and when he was Governor of Pennsylvania, he was the candidate on the regular ticket. Now, here was a man against whose position nothing perhaps could be said. But he is a man of weak and inferior judgment. Some of his friends place him in the Legislature. He is so far as being a member of the Central School Board is concerned. Here are as follows: When Senator Howard's bill for the placing of the funds of the Central Board on deposit was introduced, which the speaker had referred to on another occasion. There was a contest for school books—between Wilson's and Osgood's readers, and Guyot's and Mitchell's geographies. Now, George H., what did he do on this question? Why, he voted for one of Wilson's and one of Osgood's readers, one about; for Mitchell's and Guyot's geographies, one about. And why did he do so? Because the wily dodger undertook to straddle and ride two horses. Then there was another—just one other act of his man, placed against Alexander Gordon, and who was asking the suffrages of the people, to which he would refer to-day. And that was that he had been interviewed in regard to the question of the introduction of German into the public schools. He (the speaker) said, "Oh, yes, my German friend, I am in favor of introducing the German into the public schools. And I am astonished at seeing so much enthusiasm on the question. But understand me, I am in favor of introducing the German so as to excince our language." (Laughter and applause.) The speaker was sure that there was not a man in the crowd who would give his vote to such a weak mind as could conceive and endeavor to carry out such ideas as Mr. George H. Anderson, when the opposing candidate, Alex. Gordon, was known to be a man of judgment and ability, and who had served himself up to what he now was.

He next referred to the candidates nominated by the Reform Convention, to represent us in the halls of the Legislature, and contrasted each one of them with those on the regular ticket. He spoke more particularly of Mr. Jos. Walton, whose many qualities are thoroughly understood, and need not be mentioned here. Each of the candidates were separately mentioned, the speaker propounding a question relative to their bearing. While he has been so far perverted, that in its present state it only serves to accomplish its own selfish ends. Then, said the speaker, is the distinguishing characteristic of a Republican—that of reform—and this is the only reason of this was because they had a "side show" across on the other square. He was glad of this, for the reason that he had come not to say a word in favor of any man or measure. He then referred to the Reform Movement, and stated that a ticket had been organized, and claimed that had it been brought before the people properly, it would have received the hearty support of the masses of the Republicans of Allegheny county. And we now inform you that the ticket was Mackey. Next in order was Tommy Steel, who was a "Democrat" in 1861. He met on a morning paper had said "so long a time that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." He referred to the prominent men in the ward; had been repudiated; then received offices in the Ring, and after they (the Ring) had been kicked out; next he appeared upon the county and offered himself as a candidate for Council, and was defeated by Democrats overboard; and now at last he had got into the National Ring, and was standing in favor of Uncle Sam. Such, said the speaker, is the character of the Ring Managers.

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The speaker next referred to the politics of the occasion, and stated that if tax payers would only examine the matter, they would see that the blame was to be laid at our Sheriff, our Prothonotary, our Clerk of Courts, and other county officers, made more than three times as large as the salary of the Governor of the State, and the salaries of the Presidents of the United States, and which, in the days of the rebellion, was paid out annually as officers' salaries at the Court House and Auction Room. Where did this money come? Why, the tax payers (A voice in the crowd, "That's so.") And why was it that the people had to accept it? Because a corrupt ring had charge of the matter, and could manipulate matters as would best suit themselves.

He next referred to the Reform Republican convention, and stated that it was not the first thing that convention did was to pass a resolution pledging themselves to support the nominees. The resolution stood in the Reform Republican platform, and it could not be ignored. And here, said the speaker, was where he is candidates charged with being out of the party, to say that I, for one, am not responsible for these fat offices. He denied that such was the fact, and that only the reformers set forth in the platform were entitled to the offices they wanted. How was it that corrupt men succeeded in getting themselves into office? He could endeavor to show them by a few instances. Some years since, Hon Judge Kirkpatrick, an immensely popular Republican then as now, was a candidate for District Attorney; an endeavor was made by certain parties of the Ring, who had the power in their hands, to designate, to do this, had gone to the polls, one secured the position of judge; the other that of District Attorney. It was then announced that everybody was voting for Judge Kirkpatrick, and that all who voted for him in the fall elections, and told him that "we will be beat what will we do." Then a poor fellow who presented himself to the polls, and said that he could not do so. While the matter was under consideration, he was told that he would aways procured a hundred ballots, and coming back from the polls, he placed in the hands of the judge, who deposited them in the ballot box at the same time stating to the man at the window, that he presented a ticket for controversy. "Well we will let you vote." A contest afterwards takes place for the District Attorneyship, and when the returns of the votes thrown into the box, in Judge Kirkpatrick's case, it was shown that he had been defeated in Convention by one vote. This were revealed. Judge Kirkpatrick, John Wilson, Aaron Floyd and others, of the Second ward, present to night, old residents of the Second ward, will bear testimony to the truth of the corruption of the low Ring. Here in Allegheny City politics had been corrupted. Here in the 2nd ward—the Second—there had been scarcely fifty votes cast. The election of the *Gazette*, knows that there has been no increase at all," is false. They will understand, too, that the purpose of the *Gazette*, in thus attempting to deceive them, is to quiet their fears; to keep down complaint; and to *continue in office men who will continue to run the taxes up.*

The *Gazette* undertakes to strengthen its falsehood by stating that "the finances of the county are under the control of Mr. LAMBERT, a man without fear and without reproach;" that "every bill against the county passes through his hands; every contract and bargain is made under his supervision." If a sheriff or a coroner goes down to Harrisburg and gets his fees doubled and trebled, by special legislation, *as has been done*, what power has Mr. LAMBERT to stop ther payment? If an Indexing Job is put through the Legislature, *as has been done*, what "supervision" has he of "the bargain or contract?" How can he *veto* any expenditure of this character, no matter how monstrous it may be? He is utterly powerless to protect the people. He can do nothing but pass the warrants over to the treasury, to be paid.

When the office of Controller was created, it was the intention of the Legislature, and the desire of the people, that he should have the entire supervision of the finances of the county; and if he had been permitted to manage them, without interference, we would not to-day be groaning under such heavy loads of taxation. But he was not permitted to manage them. *Special and extraordinary expenditures require special and extraordinary legislation.* The jobbers could not trust Mr. LAMBERT to make contracts for the indexing of the county records. O, no! He acts under oath, gives bonds for the faithful performance of his duties, and can be held responsible. He is not the kind of man to "set up a job." He would not answer at all. Therefore he must be legislated "out of the ring."

But while the ordinary county expenses have been swelled to the extent and in the manner indicated, the increase in the general expenditures has been much greater. In 1864, the total disbursements for all purposes was $293,412 71, against $644,896 44 in 1868, an aggregate increase of $351,483 73. This startling result, as we have already shown, comes from *special legislation*, AND WILL CONTINUE JUST SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE TAMELY SUBMIT TO IT. If the voters of Allegheny county shut their eyes to the facts which we have spread before them; if they blindly assent to the declarations of the *Gazette*, that there has really been no increase in their ordinary expenditures—and only such an increase for extra purposes as is proper and necessary; that there is no jobbing; no exorbitant fees paid to office holders; not a single dollar spent uselessly or extravagantly, they may make up their minds that their burdens will be increased until they stagger and fall under the load.

Thousands of taxpayers are now up in arms against the abuses of special legislation, and are determined to prevent it in future. There are willing to pay all that is reasonable and necessary, in order to carry on the expenses of the county, but not one cent for jobbers—not one cent for overpaid office holders—not one cent for lobbyists—not one cent for "pinchers" and "roosters." They are determined to inaugurate a thorough system of RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM, and as the first and most essential step towards this desirable end, THEY ARE GOING TO ELECT THE ENTIRE REFORM TICKET.

THE CAMPAIGN.

REFORM REPUBLICAN MEETINGS.

AT ALLEGHENY.

THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 22D.

In accordance with the published announcement, a large mass meeting of Reform Republicans was held Thursday evening, in the Third ward square, Diamond, Allegheny. As stated above, the attendance was quite large, and the interest and enthusiasm was manifested throughout. Able addresses were made by David E. Kirk, Esq., Rev. F. A. Hutchinson, Hon. Joseph Walton and Mr. Thomas Penny, of McCandless township. The speaking which will be found below, and they were listened to with marked attention. Smith's celebrated brass band furnished the music for the occasion, which was vociferous in the extreme.

THE ORGANIZATION.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. JAS. Miller, upon whose motion the following officers were published:

President—Wm. Carson.

Vice Presidents—Hon. Simon Drum, G. D. McGrew, S. H. Paine, John A. Watts, John Kirkpatrick, Jas. Miller, Wm. Hamilton, Wm. Richey, Hugh McKelvey, and Henry Pratt, Esqs.

Secretaries—Messrs. Wm. H. Wakeham, H. S. Mellor and W. G. Warden.

On taking the chair Mr. Carson thanked the meeting for the honor conferred, and introduced David E. Kirk, Esq., who spoke in substance as follows:

ADDRESS OF MR. KIRK.

He was glad to see so many upturned faces, persons in whom he recognized old friends, before him. He had come to speak to the citizens and present on this occasion, and he meant no disrespect to those present when he made this assertion. The crowd he expected to see present were the Mackeys, the Erretts and the Carsons, but he was disappointed in the reason of this was because they had a "side show" across on the other square. He was glad of this, for the reason that he had come not to say a word in favor of any man or measure. He then referred to the Reform Movement, and stated that a ticket had been organized, and claimed that had it been brought before the people properly, it would have received the hearty support of the masses of the Republicans of Allegheny county. And we now inform you that the ticket was Mackey, Next in order was Tommy Steel, who was a "Democrat" in 1861. He met on a morning paper had said "so long a time that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." He referred to the prominent men in the ward; had been repudiated; then received offices in the Ring, and after they (the Ring) had been kicked out; next he appeared upon the county and offered himself as a candidate for Council, and was defeated by Democrats overboard; and now at last he had got into the National Ring, and was standing in favor of Uncle Sam. Such, said the speaker, is the character of the Ring Managers.

The speaker next referred to the candidates nominated by the Reform Convention and contrasted them with the candidates of the Regular Convention. He first mentioned the name of Col. Fred. Jordan, candidate for Congress in the Twenty-third District, a man of irreproachable character, integrity and honesty, a man who was loved by his fellow people, and besides him was Mr. McJunkin, a man in every way worthy to be the nominee for Congress in the Twenty-second District. the Reformers nominated Major Wm. Frew, a man standing equally high in social circles. Then for Senate came the name of Alex. Gordon. What could be said of him? Why, in the dark, dark days of the rebellion he had been with Andy Curtin, and when he was Governor of Pennsylvania, he was the candidate on the regular ticket. Now, here was a man against whose position nothing perhaps could be said. But he is a man of weak and inferior judgment. Some of his friends place him in the Legislature. He is so far as being a member of the Central School Board is concerned. Here are as follows: When Senator Howard's bill for the placing of the funds of the Central Board on deposit was introduced, which the speaker had referred to on another occasion. There was a contest for school books—between Wilson's and Osgood's readers, and Guyot's and Mitchell's geographies. Now, George H., what did he do on this question? Why, he voted for one of Wilson's and one of Osgood's readers, one about; for Mitchell's and Guyot's geographies, one about. And why did he do so? Because the wily dodger undertook to straddle and ride two horses. Then there was another—just one other act of his man, placed against Alexander Gordon, and who was asking the suffrages of the people, to which he would refer to-day. And that was that he had been interviewed in regard to the question of the introduction of German into the public schools. He (the speaker) said, "Oh, yes, my German friend, I am in favor of introducing the German into the public schools. And I am astonished at seeing so much enthusiasm on the question. But understand me, I am in favor of introducing the German so as to excince our language." (Laughter and applause.) The speaker was sure that there was not a man in the crowd who would give his vote to such a weak mind as could conceive and endeavor to carry out such ideas as Mr. George H. Anderson, when the opposing candidate, Alex. Gordon, was known to be a man of judgment and ability, and who had served himself up to what he now was.

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1870.

THE COMMERCIAL—Mr. Isaac M. Wilson is an authorized agent for the daily and weekly COMMERCIAL.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

CONGRESS, XXIII DISTRICT,
Major W M. FREW, Pittsburgh.

CONGRESS, XXIII DISTRICT,
EBENEZER McJUNKIN, Butler county.

STATE SENATOR,
ALEXANDER GORDON, Wilkins.

ASSEMBLY,
ALEXANDER SIMICK, Allegheny.
SIMON DRUM, Allegheny.
JOSEPH WALTON, Allegheny.
F. A. HUTCHINSON, North Fayette.
THOMAS PENNEY, McKeesport.
HENRY W. STRICKLER, Pittsburgh.

COMMISSIONER,
WILLIAM A. SHAW, Wilkins.

PROTHONOTARY,
GEORGE NEELD, Lower St. Clair.

CORONER,
JAMES MILLER, Allegheny.

JURY COMMISSIONER,
AARON FLOYD, Pittsburgh.

DIRECTOR OF THE POOR,
MINAS TINDLE, Kilbuck.

THE BLINDNESS OF RING IMPERIALISM.

The "organ" of the "Regulars" is fast placing itself in offensive antagonism with all the tried Republicans in this quarter. General JAMES K. MOORHEAD, who has taken no part in the canvass, is the gentleman for its latest manifestation of malice. The reason is, General MOORHEAD went to the meeting of the River Men, and in a brief address of unusual force and eloquence, told his fellow citizens that he intended to support Mr. JOSEPH WALTON, as a true and capable Representative, not of the River Interests only, but of the public at large; and, furthermore, that the Saginaw Convention made a mistake in not nominating WALTON at least, a mistake which he thought the people, when they came to vote would rectify. With a fatuity which characterizes imperialism ever, the "organ" of the Rings denounces Gen. MOORHEAD for uttering this sentiment—a sentiment which nine out of every ten of our citizens cordially indorse. It says there was "an arrangement between Mr. WALTON and Mr. MOORHEAD," that WALTON "pats MOORHEAD on the back," and MOORHEAD "tickles" WALTON with compliments and promises of support. We will say just here, that there is a great deal of "patting" and "tickling" going on, as the "organ" of the "Regulars" will learn, not only with reference to the gentlemen it assails, but the voting population at large. As a matter of fact, as we are able to state, General MOORHEAD and Mr. WALTON had scarcely met in weeks prior to the River Meeting. Mr. WALTON had no knowledge of the views or intentions of General MOORHEAD, who attended and spoke at the meeting from a sense of duty, and with an independence that will be imitated to an extent that will astound the imperialists, if anything can do it. Nor will it be in regard to Mr. WALTON solely that public sentiment will exert itself in this manner. The Reform Movement, of which that gentleman forms a part, will receive an indorsement which will completely overwhelm the Rings and cliques at whose hands the public have suffered so long.

WHY TWO TICKETS?

Early in June last nearly one thousand representative Republicans of Allegheny county put forth a call for a Convention to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the ensuing election. The Convention discharged the duty by presenting a full ticket composed of capable, enlightened citizens, all tried Republicans, not one of whom desired a nomination; confessedly it is the best ticket presented to the electors of Allegheny county in many years, even if it was ever equalled.

The Convention had its origin in the universal conviction that the time had come for reforming numberless abuses—moral and political—which were oppressing the people and had become unendurable.

A month later another ticket was nominated styled "Regular," composed almost wholly of candidates that had been connected with the abuses to be reformed. The Managers of this convention were warned of the consequences of such a step—that the Reform Ticket, composed of true Republicans of recognized capacity, and standing high for integrity, and representing the dominant sentiment of the people, another ticket was unnecessary, would promote schism and disappoint the just expectations of the people.

But the Managers refused to listen to reason, went blindly forward, rejected every overture and put up another ticket composed not of the "better men" they promised, but almost wholly of the men who had been connected with the abuses referred to.

The campaign went on. In the spirit of harmony, and willing to make concessions so that Republicans might be brought into united action, the Reform Committee submitted to the so-called "Regular" Managers the proposition to submit all the candidates of both tickets to the Republicans of the county at a primary election, to be held on the first Saturday in October, the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes to compose the sole Republican ticket, to which ticket the Reformers pledged a faithful support.

This reasonable proposition, made in the interest of harmony and the spirit of perfect fairness, *the "Regular" Managers rejected*. They closed the door against harmony, because they had no faith in the people, and did not desire success except with candidates in their peculiar interest and selected at their dictation.

So the case stands to-day. What more could the Reformers do? What more could reasonably be asked of them? They showed their faith in the Republican masses by offering to submit the whole question to them. The proposition having been rejected, they still show their faith by going before the people in the campaign and submitting to them all the questions and the tickets at the election.

Who are the disorganizers? Who have acted in the spirit of concession and tried to harmonize the party? Above all, who are right in their principles and who have presented candidates most worthy of the support of the party?

The Reformers do not fear the result. They showed this by their offer to the "Regular" Managers. The people are with them. Their cause is gaining strength daily and hourly. They have the support of the strongmen of the party. There is a deep-seated, conscientious conviction on the part of the whole public that the Reform Movement is right, that its candidates are most excellent. It is a saving movement for the Republican Party and its principles. It is right in principle, right in men, practicable and necessary, and *certain* of success.

"STAND BY THE PARTY."

A frantic appeal is put forth by the "organ" for the "Regular" ticket, on the ground that the Reform Movement "alienates the Republican party in the county. It singles out the whole subject to the contempt of the people." We might refer the worthy Chairman of the "Regular" committee, who last fall supported the Independent against the "Regular" leader, candidate for Commissioner, to his own appeals then such as the "organ" puts forth now, could convince him. He only knew that the disease required the remedy proposed. Nearly eleven thousand Republicans acted with him, and the Independent candidate failed only by between one and two thousand votes. The Reform Movement is immensely stronger now than was the Independent candidate for Commissioner then. It has taken as much deeper hold on the public as the abuses it proposes to correct are greater and more numerous. Every one can see how easily the Independent candidate might have been elected—how he would have been elected by thousands—had all who sympathized with the movement voted for him.

What is the Reform Movement? It is to correct abuses political, financial and moral, which the entire community feel must be corrected to save us from ruin. It is entirely practicable to correct them and preserve the party. Can the party be saved by continuing them? The "Regulars" parade their promises. Are the promises which are made by the authors of the evils complained of to be taken? Have they nominated such a ticket as affords any guaranty that their promises will be kept? Is not the old Legislative ticket, with two exceptions, and these affording no guaranty, before the people? Where is the guaranty? Why was the ticket confined to the circle of the Ring, and why are the old leaders so earnestly for it? Does any one believe that better things are to come from that quarter? Do we not see that at the very moment promises were loudest the worst job of all was being hatched?

"Stand by the party," shouts the "organ," eager to save the Ring Ticket. It might as well say at once, "Stand by the Rings and their Jobs," "Stand by high taxation, high salaries and extortionate fees." This is what is meant, and the people cannot be cheated into believing anything else.

We say "Stand by the Party." Stand by it by correcting abuses, by putting good and true men in office; by sending men to Harrisburg who have not voted and never will for iniquitous special legislation, whereby every description of expense has frightfully gone up, and the burdens of taxation enormously increased.

There is no danger of Democratic success. If last Fall a feeble effort got eleven thousand votes, we may confidently expect fifteen or eighteen thousand this Fall.

When the "organ" asks votes for the "Regular" ticket it asks votes against reforming the many abuses which oppress the people. It asks them to repress the conviction that a change of men, whereby only can reform be obtained, is necessary. It asks them to array themselves against men and measures required by every consideration of party welfare, public and private interests, and it asks them to throw off the obligation to do right which rests on every member of the community.

GENERAL NEGLEY'S IDEA OF SERVING HIS DISTRICT.

It is generally understood and believed here that the matters affecting the interests of Pittsburgh most deeply are:

1. The improvement and security from obstruction of the navigation of the Ohio river, by which the means of cheap intercommunication which determined the location, growth and prosperity of Pittsburgh provided by the all-wise and beneficent Creator, may be preserved for the use and benefit of the teeming population occupying its fertile valley.

2. The construction of the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad, by which an immense district abounding in most of the essential natural advantages for the creation of commerce and wealth, would be brought into intimate communication with this city, giving a fresh impulse to its waning trade by the introduction of multitudes of new customers.

3. The enlargement of the Beaver and Erie canal to the capacity proposed for the Hudson and Erie, thereby consolidating the two great river and lake systems of navigation, and thus uniting the vast interior of our country by cheap transportation in the bonds of mutual interest growing out of the enriching advantages of free commercial intercourse.

With this improvement the ores of Lake Superior would seek the coal of Pittsburgh, and the products of our manufactories would pass through all these extended avenues of traffic without the fatal drawback of high freights.

Now, important as these are, Gen. NEGLEY never raised his voice for either one of them. Instead of doing so, he was in favor of subsidizing steamship lines to foreign countries, and of making Norfolk the great Atlantic commercial city by Chesapeake and Ohio connections that would be destructive of the interests and trade of Pittsburgh. We noticed his course, so detrimental to his constituency, more in sorrow than anger; and we now call attention to it as to painful facts which challenge denial in vain.

General NEGLEY never comprehended the magnitude of the trade, the interests of which he so sadly neglected. He seemed not to know that the commerce which floated upon his own Ohio river amounts yearly to $694,000,000, an amount nearly equal to the foreign commerce of the whole United States, including the entire exports and imports. By some strange fatuity, for these vast home interests he had no word of encouragement or support, but lavished all his exertions and influence upon other matters that interested his district less.

WHO SHALL REPRESENT US IN CONGRESS.

It is the deliberate judgment of fair-minded men that General NEGLEY's chances of an election to Congress, if he ever had any, are irrevocably gone. Many will say that had he the field to himself he could not be elected. Even his own supporters—many of them, at least—now admit that the contest is between FREW and HOPKINS.

It is now two weeks before the election, and there is no probability that NEGLEY's prospect will improve. The contest will continue to be between FREW and HOPKINS. Between them, therefore, the people must choose.

A body of Republicans, more or less numerous, up to within a few days, though not liking NEGLEY, but preferring him to HOPKINS, have held to the intention of voting for him. But the rapid decline of his strength has sent many of them to FREW, and there is every reason to suppose that many more will follow.

Taking everything into consideration, therefore, the true policy for Republicans to adopt is to concentrate on FREW. Indeed, there is nothing else left for them.

For HOPKINS no Republican can vote with consistency. There is nothing in common between them and him. His principles are the reverse of their principles. His antecedents render him particularly obnoxious. There is nothing in his past record, or his present attitude, that creates the least claim to their support. In other words, it is wholly out of the question that any Republican should for a single instant think of voting for HOPKINS.

Republicans, therefore, should concentrate, and in a solid body go for FREW. To this things are rapidly tending. The nomination of General NEGLEY, it is now conceded on all hands, was most unfortunate. Under the most favorable circumstances this would have been the case. A thousand reasons exist for this. They need not be enumerated,—they are patent to the whole public. It would be a graceful concession on his part to public opinion to withdraw altogether from the canvass. In no other way can he so much serve the party which has honored him. That he is strongly advised to this course by not a few of his best friends, we feel justified in stating. That he should fail to perceive as quickly as they the utter hopelessness of his case, is quite natural. But much is due to their more dispassionate judgment, and should he persist in keeping the field, when by doing so he will but play into the hands of the Democrats, Republicans will have no alternative but to abandon him, as they are fast doing, for FREW, who is HOPKINS's real opponent.

If a Republican, a tariff man, an advocate of improvements, one who is in sympathy with and will uphold the great interests of the district and support General GRANT's administration, is to be chosen, it will be Major FREW. This now is as clear as day. From this view of the case there is no escaping. Republicans of the Twenty-second District, the case is with you.

COMPENSATION OF JURORS.

The "organ" justifies the increase of the pay of jurors, from one dollar to two dollars and a half per day, and says "no class of men in the community are more poorly paid." If serving as a juror was made a "profession" or business, as it is in danger of becoming under the present system, there might be some truth in the assertion. But it is the intention of the law that such shall not become the case, as it would lead to the worst results, and end in the perversion of all law and justice. A citizen, under a fair application of the law, need not be called to serve in the capacity of a juror except at long intervals, running into years, and then he is only held for a period of two weeks. He is expected to be summoned by lot, "from the body of the county," and to discharge the duties for a merely nominal compensation. The pay comes off the body of the county in the end, and under a proper system of drawing jurors, the money received as compensation would eventually go back into the treasury to meet the expenditure for the service. It would be infinitely better to keep the pay at a nominal sum than to increase it to such a figure as to make the position sought after by idlers and hangers-on, who serve for the money that is in it, and not to advance the ends of justice. But aside from these considerations, we submit whether jurors are "more poorly paid" than any other class—if *class* they may be called. Our courts sit five hours per day, and scarcely that; and, taking the average compensation of those who serve as jurors, and we doubt whether it would reach the figure paid. Certain it is, that the great majority of them cannot make the same amount in the same time, and but a very small percentage of those drawn seek to be excused. But we take the ground that it is bad policy and poor economy to run the pay of jurors up to a point which might be regarded as *compensation*. The juror who has the interests of the community at heart, receives his compensation in a just and faithful administration of the laws, and in keeping out of the jury box those who would sit in judgment upon the life, liberty, and property rights of the citizen, *for money*. If it is the intention to create a *class*—to select certain individuals for this duty—we know of no more certain way of doing it than by putting up the pay to a good round figure, and giving the selection into the hands of two men, who owe their position to political friends. Rather than see such a result, the great majority of the tax payers would vote to abolish the pay of jurors altogether. We are willing to admit that the increase of the pay of jurors is not so objectionable as the indexing job, but what we object to is the pernicious system of special legislation by which fees are increased and jobs secured without being even asked for by the people, or indorsed by them. The tax payers did not petition for an increase in the pay of jurors, any more than they asked for the re-indexing of the county records. A majority of them would not vote for either measure to-day.

It has recently been pretty well known to the public that Captain RICHARD C. GRAY, in nomination on the Reform Republican ticket for the Legislature, owing to the pressure of business engagements requiring his absence from the State, would be unable to serve, if elected. The development of public opinion within two weeks past having left little, if any, doubt of the success of the ticket on which Mr. GRAY stood, he has deemed it his duty to the public and himself, and those with whom he acts, to say that it will not be in his power to serve in the Legislature next winter. The following is his letter of declination:

PITTSBURGH, September 21, 1870.

R. B. Carnahan, Esq., Chairman Republican Reform Executive Committee:

DEAR SIR—Having been nominated by the Reform Convention as a candidate for the Legislature, I am constrained to decline the nomination, for the reason that my business engagements for the ensuing year are such as to demand my frequent absence from the State during the time the Legislature will be in session, and in event of an election I could not possibly attend to the duties pertaining to the office. I desire to express my acknowledgements to the convention for the mark of confidence and distinction conferred, and would, also, take this opportunity of returning my sincere thanks to numerous friends for their kind assurances of support.

The failure of the late Republican Convention to harmonize differences at issue, leave it to the decision of the people on the second Tuesday of October to say who shall represent them in the next Legislature. Hoping for the success of the whole ticket, and believing that it will be sustained by the people,

I am yours, respectfully,
R. C. GRAY.

At the meeting of the Committee on the 23d inst., the resignation of Capt. GRAY was accepted and Hon. SIMON DRUM, of Allegheny city, unanimously chosen in his stead.

Mr. DRUM is too well and favorably known to our citizens to require any extended notice at our hands. It is sufficient to say that his record as a public officer and soldier, and his character as a man, are of the highest order. He will make an able, honest and efficient member of the Legislature.

While regretting the withdrawal of Captain GRAY from the ticket for reasons which cannot but be satisfactory to the party and public, we must congratulate the Reform Republicans and the public on the selection of a candidate in his place so eminently deserving of the public confidence.

We are happy to state that the friends of Reform have the best wishes, and will have the valuable services of Captain GRAY in the campaign.

More very gratifying testimony as to the practical worth of the present Administration appears in the exhibit of the receipts and expenditures of the Postoffice Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1870. The gross receipts of the three quarters of the year were $15,064,264 65, and the net receipts were $14,153,398 10, upon which basis the year's receipts would be $18,871,197 46, against $17,000 000 estimated, or an excess of 10 35-100 per cent. over the estimate made in 1868, under ANDREW JOHNSON's Administration. The ordinary expenses for the three quarters were $16,949,981 15, upon which basis the year's expenses would be $22,599,974 92, against $24,540,413 00 estimated, or 7 9-10 per cent. less than the estimate. The total receipts for the year are thus increased by $700,000 for free mails, and indicate a deficiency of $3,028,777 46, to provide for which is an unexpended balance of $1,500,000 from the previous fiscal year, and an appropriation by Congress of $5,740,000 to meet this year's deficiency, which would leave undrawn at the year's end $4,211,221 54. That this remainder is likely to be increased rather than diminished by the fourth quarter's returns, appears from the fact that the receipts for the first three quarters of the fiscal year, as compared with the receipt of the same quarters of the last fiscal year, show an increase of 11 41-100 per cent., or $1,552,928 82, while the expenditures for the same period show an increase of only 1 80 100 per cent., or $321,089.66. It appears from these statistics to be a rule in the Postal, as in all other Government departments under President GRANT to have the receipts exceed the estimates and the expenses fall below the estimates, a fact that the people will appreciate and reward.

DO THE people want Reform? Are they ready to knuckle down to the office-holders' Ring and submit indefinitely to the evils of which they have so loudly and justly complained? Now is the time to settle the question. The Reform Movement has created the opportunity which we know thousands have so earnestly desired. Year after year complaints have gone up unheeded by the powers which have fleeced the party and public affairs with equal tyranny and disregard of the general welfare. In the face of warnings and appeals, the Managers went blindly forward as they had ever done. They have set before the people a ticket composed of the old hacks who, should they be elected, will prove faithful, if to nothing else, to the Managers. If the people want no change, let them support the Managers' ticket. If there is no necessity for Reform, let the people say so, and end forever all attempts in this direction. If the people are content with things as they are, let the declaration be emphatic. But if Reform is needed, and if the people realize that a great moral and political duty is resting on them to improve the opportunity now presented, let them take a stand for private worth, public virtue and the general welfare. This is all there is in the Reform Movement? Could there be more?

THE supporters of Gen. NEGLEY assert that the Free Traders have raised a large fund to promote the election of HOPKINS. Taking the statement as true, all the importance that attaches to it fortifies the many other reasons why Republicans should concentrate on Major FREW. Were the race between NEGLEY and FREW the supporters of NEGLEY might appeal to Republicans to concentrate on him. But this, fair minded men now concede, is not the case. The contest being between FREW and HOPKINS, the statement referred to renders it all the more important for Republicans to unite on Major FREW. And this they are doing, and will continue to do, down to the election. Republicans, let us have a solid vote for FREW. He is a tariff man, an improvement man, and in his hands our interests will be safe. Between him and HOPKINS you must chose.

THE *Tribune* manifests ignorance of the state of affairs in the XXII Congressional District, and lends itself to the wrong side when it presumes, as it does impliedly, that there it would be possible to elect NEGLEY even if FREW were not running. If it would state the case fairly; if it would say, what is the fact, that it is only by Republicans concentrating on FREW that HOPKINS can be defeated—a view of the case which they are fast coming to adopt. The *Tribune*, if it were better informed, would not talk about Republicans "throwing away their votes on the irregular candidate." The reproofs of that paper should be reserved for the "Regular" Managers who have set up a candidate whom there exists not the power anywhere to elect, and never did. But the *Tribune* should be consistent. No other paper has done so much to create a healthy sentiment concerning Rings, and shams of every description, and the necessity of putting them down whenever opportunity offers. The Republicans of Allegheny are simply putting the *Tribune's* teaching in practice. If it cannot help them, at the very least it should be half way consistent by saying nothing.

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Weekly Commercial.

THE CAMPAIGN.

REFORM REPUBLICAN MEETING.

EAST BIRMINGHAM.

SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 24TH.

According to announcement, a mass meeting of Reform Republicans was held on Saturday evening at the corner of Railroad and Carson streets, East Birmingham. There was a large attendance, and much enthusiasm was manifested. The meeting was organized by calling upon Dr. J. C. Kennedy to preside, and electing the usual number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries.

The first speaker was Major Frew, who spoke in substance as follows:

REMARKS OF MAJOR FREW.

The speaker said that the Reform ticket was nominated almost on a strictly non-partizan principles in some respects. The gentlemen nominated were selected from all parts of the county without being notified that they were going to be nominated. They were taken up by the citizens with one idea, with a single regard to their fitness. He then referred at some length to the ante-me with which the candidates on the Reform ticket were being assailed, and gave as a reason for it that those who put them in nomination by the Ring, as no other reason could be assigned. He then referred to a political published during the past year in New York, entitled the *Imperialist*, whose object was to cause the ruin of the people, to see whether they were not disgusted with the corrupt institutions on account of the corruptions which had crept into the Republican party, and whether they would not be willing to take some steps to put it established. The publishers of this periodical were much disappointed, but the paper, he was not supported, and it failed. The speaker said, in saying that the people were not prepared to take a monarchy, but are determined to purify their politics and throw out all rings and cliques and combinations. He then spoke at considerable length of the evils which the country suffers received by our county officials, showing that a reform in those matters has become an imperative necessity. Another evil to be corrected is the manner of making nominations, which in the Republican party stand pledged to correct. The speaker dwelt at some length on the Harrisburg and at Washington, showing the influence exercised over them by the corrupt legislative bodies, and it is owing in a large part to the existence of the lobby that corruptions have poured in. In conclusion, the Reform party has pledged itself also to correct this evil.

The next subject referred to was the tariff question. He said there would be a great struggle in the next session of Congress on this important subject. He said that the tariff is to be assailed by free traders, who will make a strong effort to take away the protection which this country has enjoyed for many years past. The Reform party, he said, would fight for the last for the protection it has given the workingman. The speaker then said that during the past session of Congress the gentleman who represented this District spent a good deal of time in preparing a speech on commerce, and seemed to take more interest in the interests of our manufacturers, and the interests of our river men, and devoted his greatest intellect to the preparation of this great speech. One of the grand ideas of the Oriental Steamship Navigation Company was to import Chinese laborers into the United States. The workingmen of Allegheny county would not, the speaker was confident, want John Chinaman brought in by the cargo, because the American laborer cannot live as cheaply as the Chinese laborers who can subsist on a few grains of rice. This importation would greatly cheapen labor and increase the immigration of paupers to a fearful extent. The speaker then said that the people did not want men to go to Congress and spend their time in speech making in this way, but they were sent there to look after our manufacturing interests and mercantile interest, and after the protection of our coal, iron, steel and glass business, and not to the new business of the Chinese. The speaker then urged upon all to follow Thomas Marshall's advice, to scrutinize the ticket in the field. First see for whom you voted you wish to vote, and let that be the Reform ticket, and if there is anybody you don't like scratch him out and vote for somebody else. The Reform ticket, however would bear scrutiny, and the result of an examination into the qualifications of the respective candidates, the speaker predicted, would be a determination by every intelligent voter to vote for the straight Reform ticket.

The speaker retired amid much enthusiasm.

The next speaker introduced was R. B. Carnahan, whose speech was as follows:

ADDRESS OF R. B. CARNAHAN.

My friends and fellow-citizens of East Birmingham: I assume that I am addressing, at least in very large part, a Republican meeting. There may be here those who are from the motives of curiosity, or from other motives, but I take it for granted that the great majority here to night are Republicans. My fellow-citizens we profess the Republican faith. We plant ourselves on the Republican platform. The record which that Republican platform, during the last, the seventeen years is a record of great and [illegible] of our country. Your country had never given it a history until the Republican party gave it. Strike out what relates to the Republican party, strike out what relates to the war of 1812, and you have not much history except what the great and glorious Republican party has given. This country has advanced in fourteen years in history. If this country is to prosper and be prosperous and be happy, if governments are to be preserved upon the principles in my judgment, they must be administered through the war, it must be administered upon the principles which are based upon liberty and the rights of men to every human being on this continent. Now this is the platform upon which we stand, this is the faith we propose act. I is a living faith, my fellow citizens, and that faith is based upon living truths. If there is any person here to-night who charges that there is now engaged in this movement, or sitting on the ticket or off the ticket any person engaged in the movement laboring in the interest of the democracy, I have to say that it is not true. I think I know every man upon the ticket nominated by the Reform party, one who was ever a Democrat. I know there is a large class of very good Democrats who became so at a period considerably subsequent to the time of the formation of the party. I allude to the war Democrats, who rallied around the standard during the war. They are good Democrats, but they are now Republicans. I say to you, fellow-citizens, that there is not one man, as far I know, and I think I know the whole of the ticket, who was not an original Republican; but I will dwell upon this at length. I don't think it is matter of much importance.

It is charged by the "organ" of the party, or the disorganizers. Well, now, if that be so, it is a serious charge. It is a charge of corruption, of fraud, and if we cannot repel it, if we cannot make it clear to you that we are not disorganizers we are not fit to be the exponents of the people. Let us look at this question of disorganizing." Take Mr. Swearingen's name on the ticket, and I will go over them one after another. Do you know Alexander Gordon? But is he the head of a ring? I will tell you his history if you do not know it. I know him well. He is one of the most active and liberal Republicans in this county. I know it, for he was associated with me in the Republican party in this county and county club. I know he gave his services, his money, his time, his influence. I know he did everything in his power to promote the interests of the party. Still he went further; an anti-slavery man—in fact, the friend of the colored people, having indeed something of the character of a philanthropist, a pure, good, disinterested man. Are you prepared to believe that that man is a disorganizer now? He did ask the Republican Committee to nominate him to the office of State Senator. But he's put in nomination. He approves the action of the Committee in nominating him. He approves the platform upon which he stands. He says he will support it, he will serve you to the best of my ability, he will be true and called upon to serve you, it will be at the price of considerable personal inconvenience, perhaps at serious pecuniary sacrifice. Is that man willing to serve you. Is that man a disorganizer, or is there something below this question of "disorganizer."

Take another man not on the ticket. You know a gentleman of your county, Parks, Jr. Have you known in times past a more active Republican—a more liberal one? Now, he is not only in this movement, not only a signer of the call for a Convention, but a most active man—pure, honest man. Do you think James Park's purpose is to break up the party? Take James I. Bennett. Go through the ranks of the party and you will find the principles of the party are not changed. They are as good and as pure as ever they were. Then why this clamor? Why has the majority dwindled down to almost nothing in that great State? Go to New York. As I stated on Saturday night, the New York vote of the Empire State as the great commercial State, but it was the Empire State of the North to regain, the Republican majority of years past. In 1856 it gave a Republican majority of about 60,000. What has become of it? Why, in 1868, in the Presidential election, the Republicans failed to carry the state. The country parishes gave Gen. Grant a majority of 60,000 in that very year. Within four months of this time those very parishes gave a majority for a Democratic majority, and there is some reason for this change. There is no effect, no result like without a cause. The cause is to be adequate cause. Horace Greeley, in one sense the greatest power in the United States, reveals the cause. He tells the public, he publishes everywhere that it is the corruption which has swept into the Republican party which has degraded the public service and has withdrawn the public confidence from the party in consequence of the malefaction of its agents. Do gentlemen tell me that we fight for principles, not for men. I say fight for principles and men. If any man comes here to-night and states that George Washington was elected President of the United States without any reference to the great personal merits and the great and good man. I would not believe it. I believe that Washington was elected President of the United States because he had concealed himself in the hearts of the people. The same is true of Andrew Jackson. He was elected President of the United States in consequence of the great services he had rendered his country. Indeed, it is said that the services of General Grant brought through the war of the rebellion. The election of these services has never been overestimated, and are incapable of being overestimated. I think that nothing but those services, nothing but the personal merits of General Grant brought him into power. Indeed, what when people rise and tell you that they fight for principles, and not for men, they state what is false. The life history of this country or any other country. It is what a man does. It is the character he possesses. It is something of his fitness for office or some personal qualification which endears him to his fellow-citizens, which entitles him to office, which puts him into office.

Now I go back to the reason of the decay of the Republican party. Go down to Harrisburg, and what sort of men do you find there when the Legislature is in session? Some of you, I dare say have been there, but all of you have seen something about Harrisburg. Let any citizen, say of this borough, go down to Harrisburg and ask the Legislature to give you a charter establishing a steam railway all-way on some street parallel with the present line, and what will you be told? You will be told you don't know what you will be told. It will be inquired "How much money is there in this thing? How much money is there to pay for it?" and I think there are men here to-night that know that is the fact. Those corporate privileges, these corporate franchises are sold for cash. There have been men in the Legislature at every session for the last three or four years who go there for no other purpose than to make money. Why there is not a newspaper, there is not a respectable man in the country who does not know this. Let any secular paper whose columns have not echoed and re-echoed and re-echoed these charges against the Pennsylvania Legislature. I don't mean to say, by any means, for I don't believe that every member of the Legislature, or that even a majority of the Legislature are corrupt, but I mean to say that at all for I have no doubt that as good and as pure men have been in the Legislature of Pennsylvania as have been for three or four years as at any time of our history. It is not for me to say whether these charges be true or not. The public believes them to be true; the public confidence has been withdrawn from that body. It is openly denounced by nearly everybody, and has been denounced from the pulpit. The editor of the New York *Independent* only a year or two ago drew a pen and ink sketch of our Legislature, and described it as a body in which no man had ever been better not venture; it would not be safe in the crowd. This was or drawn as a matter of course. I have no doubt there were men then in there, but your Legislature has degenerated. It has become a by-word, it has become a word and a reproach, and it is a disgrace to your State. It ought to be reformed. How can it be reformed? By the ballot-box, indeed! There must be some cause for it.

My fellow-citizens, this is the first time in the history of this country that legislative bodies have become corrupt. I remember of reading that the Governor of the State of North Carolina, in the year 1830, dissolved the Legislature of that State, on the ground that it was so corrupt that the business of legislation could not be entrusted to it. I do not mean to charge this legislature with the perfection of any particular class of persons, for we all know the corrupting influences of the times. We remember the dreadful consequences which war entails. The expenditures of enormous sums of money—the inducements and offers that are made—the temptations to fraud—all this has, and deservedly so, a demoralizing part, and perhaps a larger part of the corruptions of this day are the ordinary and legitimate consequences of war. So I am not finding fault particularly with individuals. The condition has been approached by causes which are approached in every country. It was so in France after her great wars. It was so in England after her great wars, and it is now in our country. This evil must be arrested. How are you going to arrest it? The first remedy is such a constitutional provision as we will ask, and I think the people will vote for. I am not

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1870.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

HEREWITH are given the details of the monster Subsidy Scheme for which Gen. NEGLEY stood father in the House of Representatives. When the reader has observed the extent of the Land Grab and mastered the details of the iniquitous device for despoiling the Public Domain that a few speculators might gain enormous riches, the inquiry will present itself, why did General NEGLEY enter into it? We leave the public to cogitate on the subject without a word of remark.

THE TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.

We invite the attention of all Republicans, who have the interests of the party at heart (and all have except a few Ring masters and their followers), to the present situation of the campaign in the Twenty-second District. If any doubt existed heretofore, it is now plain that the contest is between Mr. FREW and Mr. HOPKINS. Gen. NEGLEY is third in the race. If he had the entire Republican field to himself he could not be elected. If any obligation, in the judgment of some, heretofore rested on Mr. FREW to withdraw in the interests of Republican unity, the day for it has passed. Gen NEGLEY cannot be re-elected to Congress in this campaign under any combination of circumstances. The public sentiment on this subject has been so fully developed during the last week that it is impossible for a well informed and candid mind to longer doubt. Even the friends of Gen. NEGLEY now admit—some directly, others indirectly—that he cannot be returned. Republicans known to be adverse to him are daily plied with appeals to take him once more, urging that he will be personally disgraced if defeated, as if political defeat involved personal disgrace. They are entreated to repress the dictates of their own good judgment, to blind their eyes once more to all considerations of merit and fitness in a candidate in the interests of a pretended political necessity. The same patriots do not think that the failure of Mr. PHELPS to be returned to Congress involves any personal disgrace.

Republicans of Allegheny! Rally to the support of the Reform candidate, Major FREW. The real contest, we say again, is between him and the Democratic nominee. Major FREW was born and reared in this city, and is well known to all of our people. Able, patriotic, industrious, faithful to the great principles of the Republican party, and thoroughly acquainted with all of the interests of the district, he possesses every required qualification of a Representative in Congress. An upright, liberal, public-spirited man, a Christian gentleman widely known and respected in and far beyond the circle of his personal acquaintance. Falsehood however base, slander however malicious, cannot reach him. To vote for Mr. FREW involves no compromise with judgment or conscience. Every Republican who votes for him will feel that he has voted for a man worthy his suffrage. An honest man cannot feel well in giving his support to a candidate known to be unfitted for the office he seeks, simply because in so doing he commits something like a crime.

Republicans! The Saarbruck, Weissenburg and Gravelotte of the campaign have been fought and won. We are now moving on Sedan. The Imperialism of the Ring is found as we advance to be a mere shell incapable of resisting attack. The enemy is demoralized and fleeing. Courage, energy and persistence will make our victory complete.

Let every Republican voter cast his ballot for the man, who, in his heart he feels should be elected, and there is not the slightest danger of losing the district.

REPUBLICANISM IN EUROPE.

Readers of the cable dispatches during the last ten days or two weeks must have discovered, if they did not know before, that Republicanism has a very bad name in Europe. Indeed, the familiar phrase, a bad name, does not express the evil repute in which it is held in conservative circles. TACITUS states that "a great multitude" of the Christians, charged at the instigation of NERO with having set fire to Rome, "were convicted not so much of the crime of arson as of hatred of the human race." With our knowledge of the primitive Christian creed and practice, it is difficult to understand how so monstrous a perversion of facts could have found acceptance even in Pagan minds. It will, however, become plain, if we reflect that those wretched culprits were really in favor of changing certain long established institutions, by which, on the easiest terms, vast numbers of the most respectable people in Rome enjoyed, not only all the comforts, but all the luxuries of life. Think of the tremendous force of opinion, against which their life was a protest. Of course, nothing less than general hatred of the human race could have prompted an assault upon so blessed a state of things. Somewhat like this is the process of reasoning by which believers in established institutions in the old world arrive at their estimate of Republicans. Though the notion of divine right has comparatively few adherents at the present day, and though much light has penetrated even the serene regions of aristocracy, yet still Europe is controlled by a class to whom Democracy is a thing hideous and abominable. It assails and purposes to overthrow, as they suppose, the altar as well as the throne. Through the unfortunate connection from time immemorial existing between Church and State, the enemies of the one have constantly been forced into the position of antagonism to the other, and conservatives feel called to uphold both and look upon the opponents of each as equally vile and irrational. Long ago, in the thirteenth century, DANTE said:

> Ah, Constantine! of how much ill was cause
> Not thy conversion, but those rich domains
> That the first wealthy Pope received of thee.

It is indeed only the truth that the beneficiaries of that plentious dower, the administrators of those evil domains have frequently so conducted themselves as to merit the reputation unjustly assigned to the Christians in NERO's time, that of enemies of the human race.

But we intended merely to direct attention to the feelings with which republicanism appears to be just now regarded in Europe. Much has been said concerning the proclamation of a republic in France, but there is, in fact, no evidence that a majority of the French people desire a government of the sort. By the better portion of the people we know that the socialists are greatly dreaded. With this element only the sincere republicans in the country. And they are likely so numerous as to be in themselves a barrier in the way of the inauguration of such a democratic system as might command the homage of the nation. But the existence of so many enemies of property and Christian society renders, and will long render, a standing army essential to the stability of whatever government may be set up in France. There is also good reason to believe that, socialism aside, the French people are neither sufficiently intelligent nor sufficiently familiar with municipal administration to govern themselves. It is certain that one effect of their long subjection to imperialism has been to weaken or destroy whatever aptitudes of the kind they once possessed. With reference to the desires of the nation on the subject, we may be sure that so far as they are Catholic, or even earnestly Christian, they do not wish for a republic.

In Spain republicanism is weak. Few of the open friends of that sort of rule enjoy the confidence of the people to any considerable extent, while by the great majority it is dreaded as likely to introduce anarchy, or take on a socialistic form. In Italy though republicans are numerous they do not represent either the prosperity or the most solid and respectable character of the country. We need not say that its dominant religion is not republican, as the most cogent reason assigned by the King to His Holiness for the occupation of Rome was the certainty that if he did not do so, it would be seized by those who would treat the church with small respect. This statement, however, may not be authentic, and if it is, it may do the piety of the republicans injustice, as those of them who care at all about the matter, object not to the spiritual but only to the temporal or royal power of the Pope. It is, however, we believe, true that in Italy, as elsewhere on the continent, republicanism is infidel rather than Christian, for the reason intimated above.

To a great extent this is also the case in England. *Probably* a very small proportion of the multitudes who took part in the London demonstrations described in the cable dispatches two nights ago, are ever seen within a church. In the phrase of appalled conservatives already quoted, they alm their hostile blows at the altar—that is, the Established Church—as well as at the throne. It is likely that neither the property nor the education nor the religion of Great Britain was well represented in those vast assemblies. It is, however, not less true that the movement indicates the tendency in the direction of democracy which has been growing continually stronger, with incidental reaction, for fifty years. It is understood that vast multitudes throughout the island who would not participate in such a display, sympathize with the hopes and views in which it had its origin. Another circumstance worthy of being noted in connection with the demonstration is the apparent absence of violent alarm on the part of the ruling classes. In former instances of excitement in England resulting from sympathy with revolution on the continent, even not longer ago than 1848, there used to be violent panic among owners of property and conservatives in general. In those days, the popular excitement was attended with clamor for the removal of old abuses and for the grant of rights unjustly withheld. But wisely administered reforms have almost anticipated the wishes of the people, and the democratic enthusiasm of to-day seems quite unmingled with denunciation against a class. The anxiety, however, is certainly not the less because there is no obvious panic. It is felt that great and radical changes are only the more unavoidable, because they are anticipated as the result of information instead of a revolution—and those who would like to have things remain as they are, look with no friendly eye upon those national examples, whether near or remote, by whose influence the people are encouraged in the hope of better days. Conservatives and Tories regard such nations and their representatives as firebrands, if not as enemies of the human race.

SHERIFF FLEMING ON THE STUMP.

HUGH S. FLEMING, Sheriff, made a speech at the "Regular" Republican meeting, in Allegheny, on Thursday night, in which he used the following language, as reported in the *Gazette* of yesterday:

"Remember not a single dollar of the Sheriff's fees comes out of the public treasury; but comes from litigants."

This is a very direct and explicit assertion, and is as false as it is explicit. The Sheriff was laboring to convince the people that he did not receive a large compensation for his services, and wound up by making use of the declaration given above. Now we charge that Sheriff FLEMING *draws from the county treasury* one dollar for each juror called in the Quarter Sessions, Common Pleas and District Courts, a sum in itself amounting to almost $4,000 per year. We charge that he *draws from the county treasury* two dollars and fifty cents for each prisoner conveyed to the Penitentiary, the Workhouse, the House of Refuge, and Dixmont Hospital. We charge that he *draws from the county treasury* one dollar in each court case wherein the county has to pay the costs, and in homicide cases two dollars and fifty cents each.

Sheriff FLEMING has not been nine months in office, and yet he has *drawn from the county treasury* TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE DOLLARS, as the following figures will show:

March 1, 1870.....	$ 719 03
June 15, 1870.....	709 36
September 1, 1870.....	800 48
Total.....	$2,229 07

Sheriff FLEMING must have had the last $800 in his pocket when he declared to the taxpayers of Allegheny that "not a single dollar of his fees came out of the public treasury," because the warrant had been cashed that very day! His declaration, therefore, could not have been made mistakenly, but for the express purpose of deceiving the people. Surely the "Regulars" have put their foot into it in calling to the stump such reckless advocates of the "Ring" as Sheriff FLEMING.

In 1869, Sheriff CULLEY drew from the county treasury the following sums:

Quarter Sessions—Costs, Drawing Jurors, Commissions, etc.....	$1,784 43
Common Pleas—Drawing Jurors.....	1,908 00
District Court—Drawing Jurors.....	990 00
Total.....	$3,682 43

When Sheriff FLEMING shall have completed his first year, he will not be a whit behind Sheriff CULLEY, in the amount of fees which he will extract from the public treasury. Indeed, it is fair to presume that the increasing business will swell his aggregate to a round $4,000—a sum which, in itself, exceeds the annual compensation of thousands of clerks and business men who do a much greater amount of work than the Sheriff. And yet these pickings from the treasury form but a small portion of the emoluments of the High Sheriff of Allegheny. We are not surprised at the interest which Mr. FLEMING takes in the Ring and the Ring candidates, because he is indebted to these influences for his position, and the continuance of the laws whereby he obtains these pickings; but we are amazed that he should attempt to foist such a monstrous falsehood upon the people, when he knows that the public records of the county give the lie to his assertion.

GOOD ADVICE BY A "REGULAR."

In his speech in Allegheny, Thursday evening, THOMAS M. MARSHALL, Esq., gave the Republicans of Allegheny county a piece of good advice, as follows:

"First I say as I have always said, *don't vote for a man you don't believe is a man of integrity. Take up your ticket and look at every name, and if you see a name there in whom you have not confidence, why if you can find a better man on any ticket scratch the bad man out and put the good one on.* I always said that to you at every election. I say so now."

This is precisely what the Reformers say. If the advice is followed, as we believe it will be, the Reform ticket will be substituted for the Regular ticket. In times past the Republicans of Allegheny have been in the habit of accepting Mr. MARSHALL as a preacher of sound doctrine, and they will take him at his word now. We hail him as an effective worker for the Reform cause.

WHO ARE THE DISORGANIZERS?

The "Regulars" say the Reformers are disorganizers without the slightest prospect of electing their ticket.

Now see how a plain statement will put this charge and those who make it down, and at the same time dispose of this boast of the "Regulars."

A little more than a week ago the "Regulars" sent a committee to the Reformers requesting them to withdraw their ticket, as they said for the sake of harmony and success. It was an impudent request, but it was treated respectfully. Of course it was declined, courteously but decidedly. But, moved by a sincere wish to heal the breach and bring Republicans together in support of one ticket, the Reformers proposed to submit all the candidates on both tickets to the Republicans of the county, those receiving the highest number of votes to constitute the ticket. THIS THE "REGULARS" DECLINED TO ACCEDE TO.

In declining a proposition so reasonable, so perfectly fair, and so manifestly in the interest of harmony, the "Regulars" admitted their weakness and proved themselves disorganizers. In making it, the Reformers showed their confidence and desire for harmony. They were willing to go before the Republicans and leave everything to them. The "Regulars" were not, for they knew perfectly well that they would lose. They did not want harmony excepting on their own terms—that is, on a ticket ground out by a convention which the office holders' clique had spent months in "setting up" delegates to.

The ticket which their convention had set up they dared not submit to the party for adoption. But how can they expect to fare better when the election is held? They simply prefer to be beaten at the polls in October to making any concessions to the Reformers.

Republicans! you see now who are the disturbers of the Republican household—who desire harmony, and who do not—who are willing to trust you, and who are afraid to do so. Hereafter let no one venture to accuse the Reformers with being the disorganizers.

"REGULAR" NOMINATIONS.

That the Reform Republican ticket is not the best, neither the masters of the Ring or any of its members have ever dared publicly deny. That each man on it is not an honest, worthy and capable Republican, is quite as undisputed by either Ring Master EBBETT or the aged and corrupt Ring Master at Harrisburg, who daily sends his commands to his followers in this city. The only objection given for opposition to the Reform ticket by CAMERON and his crew, is that it was not "regularly" nominated. That is, it did not go through the hands of the manipulators—the *markers*—the men capable of putting down five votes each when they only had one.

To pretend that *he* objects to a ticket simply because not *regularly* nominated is poking fun at one in earnest! CAMERON, the "regular!" This day he is plotting for the defeat of good men, *regularly* nominated by the party in different parts of the State, for no other reason than that neither he or his son can make merchandise of them next session at the State capital. His opposition to Governor GEARY—who was *regularly* nominated—is well known. True, Mr. CAMERON swore loyalty to the Governor and our cause last fall, but that was only putting his duplicity, treachery and deceit in a worse light.

The Reform Movement was inaugurated in Allegheny county because the organization of the party here was in the hands of a set of men who run the party to enrich themselves—and so bad had things become that either this course had to be resorted to or the party would have gone down. The money of the public has been so squandered—the mismanagement of our public servants has been so outrageous, that taxes are becoming too onerous to bear. All this because the puppets here obeyed the commands of their master in Harrisburg, who is not interested a dollar in our city or county, and who does not bear one cent as his share of the burdens.

The success of the Reform ticket will not only be the success of the Republican party, but its preservation and building up. The Ring reduced our majority from 11,600 to but little ever one-third that of last year, for no other reason than that their master did not like the Gubernatorial candidate, and found he could not use him. The vote this year will show that they polled last fall their full strength. All that is *regular* and fair in politics will be served by the success of our ticket. It was nominated to win, and none feel that it will stronger than the Ring. Let them howl while it is yet day. Their night is near at hand. All good men will rejoice at their overthrow.

SPECIAL legislation heaps endless burthens on the people. Increased taxation can be traced directly to this source. While the tax payers are engaged in their several avocations, politicians and office holders, who live off the public, are hatching special legislation that creates expensive jobs and enables them to secure fat contracts. It has already been shown how the Court House Ring dive, and it would be difficult to point to a public expenditure for improvement in some way or other, pay tribute to these Rings and jobbers. Whenever a public improvement is projected, straightway a Ring is organized to make money out of it; and the next that is known is that the cost will be much greater than the original estimate. The tax payers never know how much they will be called on to pay. They are continually plundered. Such a thing as an improvement costing less than the original estimate has scarcely ever been known. This sort of thing is growing worse and worse. In our home affairs the rigid accountability and strict honesty which General GRANT has instituted is greatly needed. It is idle to suppose that similar accountability cannot be had in Allegheny. With the county valuation constantly increasing the rate of taxation should decline, and would decline, but for the special legislation, whereby extraordinary expenses are yearly added to the ordinary expenses of the county. Tax Payers, if they would relieve themselves of an oppressive burthen, must strike at the root of the evil. Special legislation must be stopped, and we must look to constitutional reform, which alone will give the people security. This is one of the principal planks in the Reform Platform. The question has been placed squarely before the people, and voters must deal with it as they would with any other practical question.

THE "Regulars" decline to discuss the question of taxes. Whether this is because they feel no interest in it or realize that the mismanagement of the Ring has been so bad that it cannot be defended, the reader can judge for himself. It is doubtful whether the taxpayers will be satisfied with this treatment of the question, and when they look for those who have placed on them and will continue on them, unless they are not deprived of a power, these increasing burthens. The "Regulars" have been invited to discuss the question of morals in politics. For this also, they have no taste. It is foreign to their idea of things. It is their motto that morals have no place in politics, that corruption will always exist and there is no use in trying to prevent it. This is what was said to GRANT, but he did not believe it—at any rate he concluded that something could be done to stop jobbing and stealing and introduce honesty and economy, and so after a trial of less than two years Congress was enabled to cut down taxation nearly eighty millions at a single dash. Now it is believed that something of the kind can be effected in our home affairs, and the Reformers are for making the trial. They come before the people in just this shape, and invite the "Regulars" to discuss the question with them, but not one of them opens his mouth, daily, perhaps, to utter a warning about "injuring the party." The Reformers think this is no answer at all, and can not conceive how the party can be injured by electing sound Republicans, who, besides, are for reforming these abuses. And that is what the Republicans of Allegheny are going to do.

THE Ring managers are making frantic efforts to save a portion of their ticket. They continue to denounce the Reformers as "disorganizers," keeping out of sight entirely the proposition which the Reformers made to unite the party, which proposition the "Regulars" rejected. That proposition was, that the candidates on the two tickets should be submitted on the first Saturday of October to a popular vote of the party; that the regular inspectors, duly sworn, should hold the election, or where that was impracticable other responsible inspectors, duly sworn, should serve; that the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes should constitute the sole Republican ticket, to which ticket the Reformers pledged a hearty support. This proposition was submitted to the "Regular's" meeting and by them rejected. It was rejected simply because they were afraid of the Republican masses. They dared not trust the question to a square vote of the Republican party. They knew that they would be beaten, as they will be beaten on election day. These things the orators of the Rings and Cliques keep out of sight. But they cannot blind the people to the fact who are the disorganizers and who are the real friends of the party as well as True Republicans.

HEREWITH are given the proceedings of the meeting of a large number of gentlemen representing the coal and river interests, held on Saturday, to decide upon their action at the ensuing election. will be seen that Mr. WALTON was unqualifiedly and warmly indorsed in the resolutions, and the Reform Movement encouraged in most of the speeches made on the occasion. The meeting was at once significant and potential. It represented a numerous and influential class of voters, and spoke specially for interests which have suffered in a peculiar manner from Cliques and Rings at home and at Harrisburg. It is believed, however, that the representatives of these leading interests have uttered no more than what community in general feel, and will declare at the election. While, in consequence of the special opposition attempted against Mr. WALTON—not to refer to the unmeasured abuse heaped on his head by those who have mingled him cut—the meeting, giving utterance to the almost universal sentiment, pledged itself to support that gentleman, it is not to be questioned that this feeling will be manifested to a very considerable extent for the whole Reform Ticket. What has been declared so excellent and even necessary in part must be good as a whole.

THE "Regulars" and Reformers both held meetings in Allegheny Thursday evening. A better test of their relative strength could not have been desired. At no time was the "Regular" meeting as large as the Reform meeting, while much of the time the latter was far the largest, and all the time the more spirited, attentive and in every respect satisfying. The speaking at the Reform stand was all good and eagerly listened to by a crowd of real voters, many of whom are seldom found at open-air meetings. The "Regular" speaking was mostly something which the "Regulars" themselves felt like excusing, if they could, and in fact hung their heads over, and have since pretty generally and vigorously denounced. Even the veteran and usually eloquent MARSHALL floundered and said something for which we feel like thanking him, inasmuch as he advised his listeners to vote for good men only and fired a telling shot at NEGLEY. We speak in perfect moderation when we say that the Reform meeting in comparison with the other, and in every other respect, was a great success, influential and highly significant.

A CORRESPONDENT who signs himself "Water Street," wants to know if we are aware that General NEGLEY's Chinese Emigration Scheme is a "set up thing," says it is a bid for the support of mill owners, and intimates that the reason why he neither denies nor defends the charge that he "is in for Chinese labor in our mills and factories," is because he expects to receive their support. But, says our correspondent, he will be disappointed in this, for not one of them will touch him. His folly and the wish to propitiate them by advocating the Emigration Scheme remain, and, says our correspondent, "our mechanics and laboring men must judge General NEGLEY by his intentions." We have no doubt that our correspondent knows. We refrain from making any appeal to mechanics, for we are well aware that they are perfectly competent to decide all questions relating to themselves and the public interest for themselves. They *may* be able to determine how General NEGLEY can champion the wholesale introduction of Chinese labor through his "Oriental Steamship Company," and still be worthy of their support. We can't.

AN unqualified indorsement of General NEGLEY's "Oriental Steamship" and Land Grabbing Scheme has been extorted from the "organ" at last. It was a bitter pill to swallow, but it has been taken at last. Here it is:

"The COMMERCIAL has harped so long and diligently on the 'Oriental Steamship Bill,' upon the assumption that it was a job, that it has deemed it fitting to publish an explanation of his course, which appears elsewhere in our columns, and to which we direct the attention of our readers. His argument on that immediate point was clear and sound, and we do not see what the COMMERCIAL can pick from it that will prove the least detrimental to the very good record made and sustained while in Congress by our able and accomplished Representative."

So Gen. NEGLEY has determined on running the "Oriental" performance. As a land grabbing scheme it excels any yet devised, saying nothing about the systematic introduction of Chinese laborers. We give him credit for nerve in such a decision, and shall take occasion to expose the record and hold him rigidly to it.

FROM every part of the county we have reports that are truly encouraging. The people are taking hold of the work of Reform in earnest. The call for speakers to address meetings is loud and frequent. There exists a settled determination to shake off the Rings and place the affairs of the county in honest hands. In less than five years that have past the annual expenses of the county have increased over a quarter of a million of dollars, and they are going on increasing every year. The rate of taxation has risen from ten to sixteen mills. Jobs now in hand will necessitate another addition of not much, if any less than two mills. With these things staring them in the face, Tax Payers are not going to permit the opportunity to put a stop to them to go unimproved. The Reform Movement promises them protection in the future, and they have adopted it as their cause. We have only to add that the success of the Reform ticket is an assured fact.

IN view of the special interest manifested in favor of the Reform Legislative Ticket, we wish to draw attention to the importance of placing the county offices as well in the hands of Reformers. It would be doing but half the work not to elect the Reform county ticket—a failure, in fact, to go to the seat of the great difficulty. The County Reform Ticket is composed of good and true men, who, in office would be in sympathy with the objects of the Reform Movement. To elect any other would be inconsistent with the idea of Reform—another illustration of the homely but expressive phrase, "Saving at the spiggot while losing at the bung." To make the work at all complete the Court House Ring must be expelled and the office holders clique broken up. So perfectly manifest is the importance of doing this, that no argument is needed. Legislate as thoroughly as you can, Cliques and Rings will still find a way to fleece the people and line their pockets.

It is only "Regular" for the Tax Payers of Allegheny to pay taxes which are every year increasing, and support any ticket the Ring Masters may dictate. It is "irregular" for them to make an effort to reduce the taxes by introducing Reform into the management of their affairs. As if to make sure of no change the Ring Masters have nominated a ticket selected entirely from under their own eye—Legislative, County and Congressional—giving the country districts nothing. The Ring Masters either feel that their power is perpetual as well as absolute, or they realize that this is their last chance, and intend to improve it to the last man and the last cent. To spoil their game it is only necessary to rally on the Reform Ticket.

LAST fall the worthy Chairman of the "Regular" committee "bolted" the "Regular" nominee for Commissioner, and, with nearly eleven thousand other Republicans, supported the independent candidate. This year there is an enlarged call making for Reform, not only in that office, but every other office to be filled. But we find the worthy Chairman engaged "whipping in" Republicans to the support of the Ring Masters' ticket. The mass of the voters, however, are not so unstable as to follow him, but will keep right ahead in support of what he taught them and labored for last fall—Reform for the general welfare, honesty and good morals.

TAXES are ultimately paid by consumers; and the problem of high rents, in a no inconsiderable degree, finds a solution in the high taxes imposed by the "Regular" Cliques and auxillary Rings of Jobbers, who live off the people. Those who pay rent have a special interest in the success of the Reform Party. When taxes can be brought down rents will cheapen. Landlords are frequently accused of extortion; but it will be found that it is the Rings that extort money from the people. Whoever pays a dollar of rent pays tribute to them. Rents will not come down before the taxes are reduced, and that cannot be before Cliques and Rings are dethroned.

THE appointment of Senator MORTON to the English mission is thought to signify a vigorous pushing to the Alabama claims question and prompt and final settlement. Mr. MORTON's course as War Governor of Indiana, and his course in the Senate show him a statesman of broad, earnest convictions, coupled with great energy in carrying out whatever he undertakes, and are expected to qualify him for fully representing the decided views of the administration upon this question and securing the desired settlement.

PLAGIARISM WHOLESALE AND BLUNDERING EXTRAORDINARY!

How General Negley Happens to Know So Much About Shipping.

The question was frequently asked during the last session of Congress, How is it that General NEGLEY happens to know so much about maritime affairs? It seemed rather strange that a member of Congress from a western district of Pennsylvania, who had never in his life had any maritime experience, and who probably didn't know the stem from the stern of a ship, should all at once step forward as the representative man of our fallen merchant marine. It appears, however, that the valiant General, like a fractious old war horse, has been breaking over into his neighbors' pastures, and feeding away quite at his leisure, without even so much as saying "by your leave."

Pages ten and twelve entire, half of page eleven, the first ten paragraphs of page thirty-nine, and the first four paragraphs of page forty of Gen. NEGLEY's printed speech are almost verbatim, (statistics and all,) copies of a report made by Jos. NIMMO, Jr., Esq., Chief of the Division of Tonnage, which was submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury, on the 31st of January, 1870.

In order to show how closely General NEGLEY has followed his authorities, we give the following sample from page 41 of his speech.

Mr. NIMMO on the 37th page of his report expresses this patriotic thought:

"It must not be that the ships of the nation, to whom we mainly attribute our maritime disasters, shall continue to supercede the American flag in our own ports, and bear off from us the prizes of our commerce with other nations. Rather let us follow that line of policy which the President indicated in his inaugural address, 'a prostrate commerce is to be rebuilt.'"

Gen. NEGLEY, in his speech delivered three months afterwards says:

"It must not be that the ships of the nation to whom we mainly attribute our maritime disasters shall continue to supercede the American flag in our own ports, and bear off from us the prizes of our own commerce with other nations. It is safe for us to follow the suggestions wisely expressed by the President in his inaugural address. 'Our prostrate commerce is to be rebuilt.'"

A large part of General NEGLEY's statistics are simply transcribed from the annual report of the Bureau of Statistics. But he fails to mention that important Bureau, which, under its present able chief, Mr. EDWARD YOUNG, has done so much to furnish to the country accurate statistics of commerce.

And that is how General NEGLEY happens to know so much about shipping.

General NEGLEY was, during the last session of Congress, the acknowledged champion on the floor of the House of the "Mediterranean and Oriental Steam Navigation Company," one of the most absurd and visionary schemes which was ever introduced into the Congress of the United States.

The scheme failed in the Senate, where the bill originated, receiving its death blow from Senator DAVIS when he said, "Now, Mr. President, I move to lay this bill upon the table, if the table is capable of holding such an enormity."

The refrain of Gen. NEGLEY's song is "Mediterranean and Oriental Steam Navigation Company." It is found on almost every page and the main part of his speech is made up of the identical absurd statements and false statistics which were reiterated on all occasions by the lobbyists who had the management of that iniquitous and absurd scheme.

General NEGLEY publishes, as an appendix to his speech, a letter addressed to him by Vice Admiral PORTER, in which this paragraph occurs:

"You have expended great labor in your examination of this question, and a more complete history of our commercial condition could not be written. Your statistics are remarkably accurate, and will afford every one the means of satisfying himself of the present disadvantages that commerce which should be the foremost in the world."

We should like to ask General NEGLEY if, when he read that glorious communication, he did not feel very much as if he had been stealing.

We advise the great Admiral in passing such high compliments in the future to scan his pretended authors a little closer. .

But Gen. NEGLEY has run into just that kind of ridiculous blundering which is inevitable in the case of a man who attempts to speak *ex cathedra* upon subjects concerning which he knows nothing.

For example, on page 10, General N. says: "That we should sustain only 19,000 American ships, carrying not quite seven millions of tons, and employing not more than 200,000 American sailors in our foreign trade, while we actually employ 37,000 foreign vessels carrying nearly 11,000,000 of tons, and supporting over 400,000 alien seamen, seems utterly incredible to one who knows the stubborn fact attested by official statistics."

General NEGLEY has simply mistaken the statistics of the movement of shipping for the statistics of tonnage employed. The former statistics, as the most ordinary commercial writer well knows, show the tonnage of a vessel every time she enters and clears. Thus, if a ship of 1,000 tons enters five times during the year, she counts on *the statistics of tonnage entered*, 5 vessels, 5,000 tons.

Not content with this, the General has capped the climax of blundering by adding seamen and tonnage entered to seamen and tonnage cleared, as though the two were not obviously one and the same thing. This is like the showman's pet tiger—"Just nine feet from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail, and nine feet back again, making eighteen feet in all."

The true statistics of men and tonnage actually employed are shown thus, from the official reports, in contrast with the above statement of General NEGLEY's:

NUMBER OF AMERICAN VESSELS EMPLOYED.	
General Negley.	Official Report.
19,000.	4,281.
AMERICAN TONNAGE EMPLOYED.	
General Negley.	Official Report.
7,000,000.	1,566,421.
AMERICAN SEAMEN EMPLOYED.	
General Negley.	Official Report.
200,000.	36,300.
FOREIGN SEAMEN EMPLOYED.	
General Negley.	Official Report.
400,000.	45,372.

No wonder that Gen. NEGLEY's figures "seemed utterly incredible" to him. The glaring absurdity of the statement that the tonnage of foreign vessels in our foreign trade amounts to eleven million tons is evident when it is known that that amount comprises almost the entire commercial tonnage of the globe.

Our case is bad enough, but for heaven's sake, General, don't make it *ten times* worse than it is.

In regard to geography as well as to ships, Gen. N. is also at sea. On page 47 we find this passage.

"Internal improvements and the remarkable energy of her citizens, rather than natural advantages, have made New York a great commercial emporium. Her harbor is neither commodious nor in desirable proximity to the ocean; the influences of winter and the necessity of artificial defenses all grave objections.

"Norfolk in contrast, has a spacious harbor, with deep water, universally mild climate and military advantages."

Gen. NEGLEY's description of New York harbor reminds us forcibly of the definition of the crab, which was submitted to the Naturalist COUVIER: "The crab is a small red shell-fish, which moves backwards."

"Excellent, gentlemen," exclaimed the courteous savant, "with this exception, the crab is *not* red, it is *not* a fish, and it does not move backwards."

Thus we say General N.'s description of New York harbor is excellent, with the exception it *is* commodious, it *is* in desirable proximity to the sea, and it requires *no* artificial defenses for commerce.

General NEGLEY ran into this blunder simply from the fact that Norfolk is the projected point of departure for the phantom ships of the phantom Mediterranean and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

The students in the Sapienza, Propaganda, and Roman Colleges (under the direction of the Jesuits,) at their grand annual *concursus* received all questions regarding the special features of the Ecumenical Council and those exclusively. Difficulties of the most sophistical nature, and the objections offered by the anti-infallibilists were given to the students in Dogmatic Theology to be solved by them; and those in philosophy received objections which were particularly directed against the tenets they were chiefly required to defend.

THE RIVER INTERESTS.

The Ohio River Navigation.

The Mass Meeting on Saturday.

Emphatic Indorsement of Hon. Joseph Walton.

Interesting and able Addresses by Captain John F. Drayo, General J. K. Moorhead and Colonel J. K. Kerr—Telling Resolutions Adopted—A Potential Movement.

A highly important and interesting public meeting of citizens, river men and all others interested in the trade and commerce of our rivers (the Ohio river especially) was held at Lafayette Hall, Wood street, at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning. The purpose of the meeting, as set forth in the call published, was to assemble those interested in the navigation of the rivers, without regard to party politics, to mature such action as shall best promote the interests of the river men and our business community in the pending canvass. Every gentleman who signed the call for the meeting was present, besides many others who had not, and the hall was crowded. The feeling manifested throughout was deep-seated and told in measured terms that the representatives of the river interests have at last awakened to the necessity of the hour, and intend to fight to the bitter end for representatives in all our legislative halls who will see that their interests are protected.

THE ORGANIZATION.

On motion of H. C. GRAY, Esq., the meeting organized by electing CAPT. JOHN F. DRAYO, Esq., Chairman, and selecting the following named gentlemen to serve as Vice Presidents: Messrs. W. H. Brown, James Blackmore, Joseph Stone, James Shouse, John C. Risher, John Kerr, Marshall McDonald and Capt. John Bigley.

The reporters of the press were appointed Secretaries.

On taking the chair, Mr. DRAYO made the following speech:

SPEECH OF MR. DRAYO.

Gentlemen and Fellow-Citizens: I presume that the object of this meeting is generally understood. The census has now been taken and published in our daily papers, and it is a wonderful story of Pittsburgh's progress, prosperity, of increase of population, elevating Pittsburgh up into the front rank of the great cities of this Government, revealing even to our own citizens, familiar with the general and material prosperity of this community, figures that are absolutely astonishing, telling of years of toil and labor and progress, such as is difficult, without a parallel on this continent. Pittsburgh, when the story of this census shall go out over this land, will be recognized as the great manufacturing emporium of the nation. In seeking to ascertain the source of this material prosperity and wealth and increase of population, we are led to the irresistible conviction that among the many influences it were difficult to name, the matter of cheap transportation is one among the many causes of this material prosperity. The facility and vast lines of water communication, floating the vast tonnage represented by Pittsburgh ownership, is one of the principal elements of Pittsburgh prosperity. The ability and facility to manufacture the transportation articles, and the ability to carry away the production of our hills, has contributed no other cause than has more to our advancement. [Applause.] The city has inexhaustible deposits of coal. The God-given resources of earth, upon which we can draw at all times for the building up of the material and wealth of the citizens. But these vast resources of wealth, these great depositories of material would remain unused and would not accomplish their purposes. We had no other means by which to transport these native products to other countries and their results in exchange with them for their commodities, and receive from them their wealth. The Ohio river only for the last few years found not alone in our railroads, but in our water lines of communication. Railroads do not possess cars enough; do not possess locomotives enough of iron sufficient to supply the constantly increasing demands of every city and community for our coal and iron. This wonderful modern system of transportation, by touring, has given us, in connection with the great facilities for cheap transportation of these heavy articles, that has left the country already above all competition, but all over this land they are discovering our beds, that are establishing, that are making the competitorship that might compete with our great home coal, and were it not for the single fact that the towing system has furnished us with such cheap means of transportation that we can to-day, in our supremacy, almost defy competition from any source. But these original rights and privileges have been interfered with by the corporate rights conferred upon privileged corporations, and it has been a long, a continuous and excessive fight that we have had to engage in, in order to maintain our rights on this river. [Applause.] I have received a communication, this outlet of Pittsburgh commerce at this trade, was so interfered with by the coal men, at an expenditure of $30,000, had to purchase a channel way through the property interests and rights of a few wealthy men who have largely invested their capital in the development of the inexhaustible resources of this community, and who are proud of Pittsburgh's prosperity, should have an interest in it. That a class of interested men should be called up to consider all these questions of transportation, and it is no wonder that it should enlist their interest. We have mainly sought for help and the protection of our rights, that the Ohio river shall be maintained, in conformity with this modern system of towing, as the very foundation of cheap transportation. We have appealed to Congress and the legislative authorities time after time, and what have we got? Not a recognition of our rights and our wants. We come to-day to reëmphasize our deep and overwhelming conviction of the importance of these lines of transportation with their wants and demands, and we propose to recognize their importance.

Over fifty years ago the river men, goaded to despair by the want of interest and recognition on the part of this manufacturing community, had to organize a body of men with all party considerations and party discipline, they voted for men who would support irrespective of party to those men who would stand in defense of those interests and those rights. [Cheers.] And it will require the sentiment that this community can rise above party. [Renewed cheers.] I am glad you cheish the true independence of thought and principal that will enable you to rise above party, above party enforcement. That when the prosperity and welfare of the community so vast and grand, as it represents to-day, the interests that is jeopardized, in order to make way for the fatherland of the Hon. Joseph Walton, that we can rise above party discipline, in the vindication of those rights and recognize in the service of the Hon. Joseph Walton, the compliment a man identified with our interests, a man who has been a faithful, honest and ever-accessible one in the advancement of those resources and in the maintenance of those rights and privileges of the commercial interests, and in his labor and services that which is to our interests, and the advancement of which we have always been led to the conviction that we can best emphasize and assert our convictions upon those all absorbing interests, by casting off all party discipline and regulations, and giving our hearty support to the able representative of the river interest. [Cheers.]

I shall not detain you longer. There are other gentlemen present who feel the same interest in the matter who will address you. In the name of the committee of fifty, who have been a committee on resolutions, expressive of the sentiments of the meeting.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

On motion the chairman then appointed the following gentlemen as a Committee on Resolutions: Messrs. W. M. Claney, Addison Lysle, James Shouse, S. S. Brown, and R. F. Wilson. The Committee immediately retired.

SPEECH BY GEN. J. K. MOORHEAD.

Gen. J. K. Moorhead was then called upon and introduced by the chairman, and said that Mr. Moorhead had spent a great deal of his time in public life and thereby understood the river interests and all the disadvantages under which it labored, and as the meeting was called without regard to party organizations, any gentleman present was free to express his convictions. Mr. Moorhead spoke as follows, and his remarks were enthusiastically received:

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN: I read the call for the